

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION: Jun MASUDA Conf. No. 4453
SERIAL NUMBER: 10/599,118 Group: 1794
FILED: September 20, 2006 Examiner: J. Savage
FOR: METAL MATERIAL FOR PARTS OF CASTING MACHINE,
MOLTEN ALUMINUM ALLOY-CONTACT MEMBER AND
METHOD FOR PRODUCING

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
PO BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

January 12, 2009

Sir:

Applicant(s) wish(es) to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

Applicant(s) wish(es) to make of record the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available full or partial English translations of any non-English-language documents.

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

Applicants note the following about references cited on the attached PTO 1449:

English Language Machine Translations for JP 08-229657, JP 2001-300711 and JP 2001-342530 are enclosed herewith. A copy of these documents, together with their corresponding English Language Abstracts, were submitted on September 20, 2006.

An International Search Report issued in related application PCT/JP2007/056048 on September 19, 2008. JP 2000 351054, JP 2002 066708 and JP 2005 264306 were cited in the International Search Report. English Language Abstracts and machine translations corresponding to the mentioned publications are enclosed herewith.

Applicant further notes that U.S. Publication No. 2007/196684 corresponds to JP 2005 264306.

RELATED CASES

Attached is a list of Applicant's(s') pending applications and issued patents which may be related to the present application. Copies of the documents, where required, are attached along with Form PTO-1449.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that

- each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign or international patent office in a counterpart foreign or international application for the first time (to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry) not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement (See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)).
- no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign or international patent office in a counterpart foreign or international application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. (See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2))

BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed:

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- without fee and within three months of the filing date of the application.
- without fee and within three months of the date of entry of the U.S. national stage.
- without fee and before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (to the knowledge of the undersigned).
- without fee and with the appropriate certification above.
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- without fee and with a Request for Continued Examination.
- with fee and before the mailing date of any Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution (to the knowledge of the undersigned).
- with fee, appropriate certification above, and before payment of the Issue Fee.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3266.

Respectfully submitted,

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